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Case K 222

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Application of: Christoph Schultheiss et al

Title: ELECTROPORATION REACTOR FOR CONTINUOUSLY PROCESSING

PRODUCTS IN THE FORM OF PIECES

Hon. Commissioner for Patents P.O. 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

February 3, 2004

SIR:

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT - SECTION 1.97(b)

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. Section 1.56, and in accordance with 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.97 and 1.98, applicants' representative hereby submits US Patent & Trademark Office Form PTO-1449. Copies of the references cited therein are submitted for consideration in the examination of the above-referenced patent application. It is respectfully requested that they be made of record, along with whatever references the Examiner may find in the course of a search, should the Examiner consider them material to the subject application.

The references have been cited in the search report of the international application. They were all marked "A" by the Examiner as relating only to background information.

The references do not disclose that in an electroporation reactor for continuously processing products in the form of pieces wherein a drum with carrier elements is rotatably supported in a housing of dielectric material in a process liquid through which the products are moved from an inlet to an outlet through a degasification zone and a discharge zone at the bottom of the housing, a group of electrodes is arranged adjacent

the discharge zone and a high voltage is supplied to the electrodes within not more than 3 µsec. generating between the electrodes and the grounded drum a large potential difference for the poration of all the walls of the process pieces while passing through the discharge zone.

This Statement is hereby submitted under Section 1.97(b) since it is being submitted concurrently with the filing of the above-referenced application.

Respectfully submitted,

K. Bach

Klaus J. Bach, Reg. No.: 26832

FORM PTO-1449  U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE					ATTY. DOCKET NO.  K 222		SERIAL	SERIAL NO.	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT					FIRST NAMED INVENTOR: Christoph Schultheiss				
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.